

Amendment
Serial No. 10/645,189

5000-1-328

IN THE DRAWINGS

A replacement sheet for FIG. 4 is attached hereto so as to incorporate the required drawing changes specified in the Office Action.

Amendment
Serial No. 10/645,189

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REMARKS

Reconsideration and withdrawal of all grounds of objection and rejection in the pending Office Action are respectfully requested in light of the above amendments and the following remarks. Claims 1-12, as amended, remain pending herein. Claims 1 and 12 are independent claims.

Claim 7 has been amended to overcome the objection thereto. A replacement FIG. 4 is attached hereto with renumbered conductors in socket 50. The specification was amended to reflect the changes to the drawings. No new matter has been added. In addition, the Abstract has been edited to overcome the objection thereto.

Claims 1-12 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph. Claims 1, 6, 7, 10 and 11 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as allegedly being anticipated by Furlong (U.S. 6,154,774). Claims 1, 2 and 4-12 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as allegedly being anticipated by Inagaki (U.S. 6,758,693). Claims 2 and 5 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as allegedly being obvious over Inagaki in view of Wang (U.S. 6,611,069). Claims 2 and 4 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Inagaki in view of Coffey (U.S. 6,317,012). Claim 3 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as allegedly being obvious over the combination of Inagaki in view of Coffey and further in view of Kahle (U.S. 5,270,576). Applicant respectfully traverses all grounds of rejection for the reasons indicated herein below.

(1) With regard to the rejections under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, claims 1, 4 and 10 have been amended to provide antecedent basis for all the recited elements.

(2) With regard to the rejection under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) in view of Furlong, Applicant has amended claim 1 to recite in part that:

Amendment
Serial No. 10/645,189

5000-1-328

at least one power-supply socket device arranged between said electrical-communication equipment and said media converters to supply power from the power-supply device to the media converters and data from said electrical communication equipment to the media converters,

wherein the power-supply socket device comprises a plurality of lines for electrical interfacing and includes input/output data interfaces for connection with the electrical-communication equipment and further includes input/output data interfaces and power-supply interfaces for connection with the media converters.

Support for the above changes are found in the specification at least at page 9, lines 5-17, page 10, lines 7-10, and FIGs. 3, 5 and 6. Applicant respectfully submits that method claim 10 has been amended in a similar fashion.

With regard to Furlong, Applicant respectfully submits that as shown in FIG. 4, item 100 is a general reference in wall translator 100 that includes a power socket 102, col. 3, lines 15-18. The power socket 102, which outputs only power from source 110, is not arranged between electrical-communication equipment and media converters, and the socket 102 does not supply data to the media converters as recited in present claim 1. Socket 102 provides power only.

Nor does socket 102 include a plurality of includes input/output data interfaces for connection with the electrical-communication equipment, or input/output data interfaces for connection with the media converters.

Applicant respectfully submits that the elements 105, 106, 143, 134 are not media converters having a socket arranged there between each media converter and an electrical-communication equipment.

Accordingly, for at least the above reasons, independent claims 1 and 10 are not anticipated by Furlong as this reference fails to disclose all the elements recited in these claims.

Reconsideration and withdrawal of this ground of rejection are respectfully requested.

(3) With regard to the rejection under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) in view of Inagaki, Applicant

Amendment
Serial No. 10/645,189

5000-1-328

respectfully submits that Inagaki is the national phase of PCT/JP01/09582 filed in Japan in the Japanese language, which was published in Japanese on May 16, 2002. Thus, as disclosed in MPEP 2136.03 (A), Inagaki does not meet condition (A) (3) and according to 2136(B), the International Filing date (November 1, 2001) is not the filing date for 102(e) purposes, nor is the completion of the U.S.C. 371 (c) (1), (2) and (4) date. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests that the rejection under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) be withdrawn.

In addition, Applicant respectfully submits that none of the present claims are anticipated by Inagaki. With regard to the Office Action, FIG. 22 of Inagaki shows a hub 2202 having a number of modular plug connectors and an electric battery power cord 2235 to turn on the hub, as it requires electricity to be operational col. 15, lines 27-29. Thus, the HUB is 2202 is clearly not a power socket device that supplies power and data from an electrical-communication equipment to a media converter.

In addition Inagaki discloses that the HUB 2202 is connected to a terminal 2201 by a two-line optical cable 2212) col. 15, lines 20-35. Inagaki does not disclose or render obvious that the above recitations of claims 1 and 10.

For at least the above reasons, none of the present claims are anticipated by Inagaki.

Applicant respectfully submits that with regard to rejections under 35 U.S.C. §102(b), MPEP §2131, the Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit has held that a claim is anticipated only if a single prior art reference sets forth each and every feature recited in a claim (*Verdegaal Bros. v. Union Oil Co. of California*, 814 F.2d 628, 631, 2 USPQ2d 1051, 1053 (Fed. Cir. 1987)), including the features in functional language (*In re Schreiber*, 128 F.3d 1473, 1478, 44 USPQ.2d 1429 (Fed. Cir. 1997) (citing *In re Swinehart*, 439 F.2d 210, 169 USPQ 226 (CCPA 1971))).

Amendment
Serial No. 10/645,189

5000-1-328

Accordingly, all grounds of rejection under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) in view of Furlong and 35 U.S.C. §102(e) in view of Inagaki are overcome. Nor would any of the claims have been obvious in view of either reference or have been obvious as being within the ordinary level of skill in the art. Reconsideration and withdrawal of all grounds of rejection under 35 U.S.C. §102 are respectfully requested.

With regard to claims dependent from one of claim 1 or 10, Applicant respectfully submits that these claims are allowable at least for dependency from a base claim that is believed patentably for the reasons expressed above, and because of a separate basis for patentability. Individual consideration of all of the claims on their own merits are respectfully requested.

(4) With regard to the rejections under 35 U.S.C. §103(a), Applicant respectfully submits that the combinations of Inagaki and Wang or Inagaki, Coffey and Kahle still fail, as a combination, even to disclose or render obvious either of base claims 1 and 10. In all cases, the combination fails to show or render obvious a power socket device arranged between an electrical-communication device for supplying power and data to media converters, as presently claimed. Accordingly, the combinations of references fail to render obvious the any of the rejected claims. Nor would the combination of elements, as recited in the present claims, have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention as being within the ordinary level of skill at the time of invention (*KSR International Co. v. Teleflex Inc. et al.*, No. 04-1350, U.S. Supreme Court, decided April 30, 2007). Reconsideration and withdrawal of this ground of rejection are respectfully requested.

For all the foregoing reasons, Applicant respectfully submits that all grounds of rejection in the Office Action are overcome. A Notice of Allowance is respectfully requested.

Amendment
Serial No. 10/645,189

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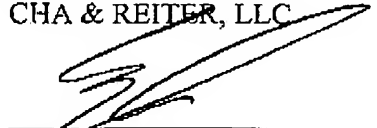
MAR 28 2008

5000-1-328

In the event that any additional fee is required to continue the prosecution of this Application as requested, please charge such fee to Deposit Account No. 502-470.

Should the Examiner deem that there are any issues which may be best resolved by telephone, please contact Applicant's undersigned representative at the number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,
CHA & REITER, LLC


By: Steve Cha
Attorney for Applicant
Registration No. 44,069

Date: *March 28, 2008*

Mail all correspondence to:
Steve Cha, Registration No. 44,069
CHA & REITER, LLC
210 Route 4 East, #103
Paramus, NJ 07652
Tel: 201-226-9245
Fax: 201-226-9246